

under street lamps at night; 15.v.71, 1 ex. dead in my garden. Dovercourt (TM 2430): 24.v.72, 2 exx. under rubbish on waste ground; 27.vi.77, 1 ex. in school classroom. Harwich/Dovercourt (TM 23): 13.v.70, 1 ex. in road. Eighty years ago, Claude Morley (*Col. of Suffolk*, 1899 p. 1) regarded it as uncommon in the Ipswich area. Despite collecting a great deal in East Suffolk I have never found or been given for identification any examples of *monilis*, and my friend Mr. C. Barham has only taken one example in the last 28 years — Ipswich (TM 1845): 12.viii.51, in garden. Moore (1957) in his County Distribution of the British Carabidae (*Ent. Gaz.* 8, p.171-180) does not record the beetle from Wiltshire although it was reported from the Marlborough area around the turn of the century by both E. Meyrick and A. G. Jebb (*Marlborough College Nat. Hist. Soc.*, Report No. 87, 1938, p.2).

Lindroth (loc. cit.) also notes that *Carabus nemoralis* Müller has become more abundant in some places whilst becoming rarer in others, notably in comparison with *C. violaceus* Linnaeus. Morley (op. cit.) also regarded this species (*nemoralis*) as uncommon in Suffolk eighty years ago. I have not found the beetle in Suffolk and Mr. Barham has only a single example which he took in Ipswich (TM 14) in 1948. My records for N.E. Essex are as follows: Lawford (TM 0931): 10.viii.68, 1 ex. carrying dried worm vertically in its jaws at night under street lamp; 10.iv.69, 2 exx. at street lamps; 21.vii.71, 1 ex. in my garden. Parkeston (TM 2331): 22.x.71, 1 ex. under stone. Parkeston (TM 2332): 28.v.76, 1 ex. under stone on waste ground. My records for Wilts. are as follows: Gariner Forest (SU 0321): 1.ix.71, 1 ex. dead in pit. Grovely Wood (SU 0633): 30.v.74, 1 ex. under stone on wood edge. Great Ridge (ST 9436): 1 ex. under log on woodland edge. Hamptworth (SU 2218) 8.iv.77: 1 ex. in moss by flush in woodland.

I hope that these remarks and records will prompt other Coleopterists to comment upon their experience of these two *Carabus* species. — D. R. NASH, 266 Colchester Road, Lawford, near Manningtree, Essex, CO11 2BU.

SOME REMARKS ON LARVAL FOODPLANTS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PHILEREME TRANSVERSATA HUFN. AND P. VETULATA D. & S. — I cannot agree with the inclusion of some of the foodplants mentioned in P. B. M. Allan's *Larval Foodplants* (1949). For the Cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae* L.) he seems far too generous in listing ten foodplants, including those such as Coltsfoot, Hop and Great Mullein (*Verbascum thrapus*). In nearly 50 years experience I have seen larvae on only two plants — Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) the chief foodplant, and Groundsel (*S. vulgaris*). I suggest the larvae of *C. jacobaeae* would not feed up successfully on any plants other than Ragwort and Groundsel, and that the larvae have only crawled on to the other plants mentioned after having eaten up all their regular foodplant (as often happens).

Nine foodplants are listed for the Sprawler (*Brachionycha sphinx* Hufn.) in addition to Sallows, Poplars and Apple. These

are probably correct, though the chief foodplants upon which I have found the larva, are blackthorn and oak (as at Monks Wood), lime, and in Yorkshire and the north, usually elm. However, around 1954, while beating in Skellingthorpe Woods near Lincoln, I beat two *sphinx* larvae from honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), a foodplant I have never seen mentioned for this species in any book.

I have beaten larvae of the Orange Moth (*Angerona prunaria* L.) in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Lincolnshire and at Monks Wood, but never on anything but honeysuckle. Yet, Allan (*op. cit.*) makes the ridiculous statement, which I am sure is wrong, that *prunaria* larvae have been found on almost every species of deciduous tree and shrub, in addition to Broom, Clematis and Mint.

The species I particularly wish to refer to in this Note are *Philereme transversata* (Dark Umber) and *P. vetulata* (Brown Scallop). For these, Allan (*op. cit.*) is less generous than usual in only listing one foodplant for both species — *Rhamnus catharticus* (Purging Buckthorn). Stokoe and South in their book on larvae list only *R. catharticus* against these two species, but at the end of the book also include *Rhamnus frangula* (Alder Buckthorn) for them.

*P. transversata* and *P. vetulata* occur very locally in a few places in Yorkshire, with *vetulata* the more local of the two and seemingly confined to three or four localities. I took both species in a small copse near Selby until this was felled in 1950 (and the site later ploughed) — I never found larvae there, but as far as I know only *R. frangula* grew at that locality. Over 50 years ago, *transversata* and *vetulata* were recorded from Askham Bog, but again as far as I am aware it is only *R. frangula* that grows there and no *R. catharticus*. — S.M. JACKSON, 22 Armoury Road, Selby, North Yorkshire. [It would be interesting to hear from any reader who knows of the finding of the larva on Alder Buckthorn of either *P. transversata* or *P. vetulata* — Editor].

AN UNUSUAL COLOUR VARIETY OF *CHRYSOLINA MENTHASTRI* (SUFFRIAN) (COL.: CHRYSOMELIDAE). — Whilst sweeping bank-side vegetation including *Mentha aquatica* beside the River Avon at Great Durnford near Salisbury, Wilts. (SU 131373) on August 18th 1972, I took an unusually-coloured *Chrysolina* of the same size and shape as *Chrysolina menthastri* (Suffrian), a species which occurs quite commonly in this locality. The head and thorax of the beetle were black, the entire base of the predominately green elytra — especially in the sutural area — was of a distinct coppery colouration, and the legs and first three antennal joints, although having a greenish reflection, were considerably darker than in typical *menthastri*. In addition, the punctures of the pronotum had coalesced in many places, so that it appeared transversely strigose on its disc and longitudinally strigose at its base.

I submitted the insect to Mr. A. A. Allen who kindly determined it as *C. menthastri* and not *C. graminis* (L.) as I